Housing Shortage

472. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated housing shortage at the time of commencement of the Sixth Five Year Plan and the percentage of increase in the housing shortage at the end of Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) the total homeless population living on pavements, etc. alongwith its percentage as per the country's entire population;

(c) the estimated percentage of rise between demand and supply of housing by 2000 AD year-wise; and

(d) the extent to which the gap in housing demand is anticipated to be bridged by 2000 AD?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION) (Sh. S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) As per estimates made by NBO on the basis of 1971 and 1981 census data, the housing shortage as on 1.3.80 (beginning of the Sixth Five Year Plan) was 22.43 million dwelling units, which rose to 30.3 million at the end of Seventh Plan i.e. 1.3.90. The percentage increase during the period works out to 35.09%.

(b) As per 1991 census data, the total population of the country was 83.85 crores, out of which 0.20 crores i.e. 0.24%, were absolutely houseless.

(c) and (d) According to the 8th Five Year Plan document, the housing shortage in 2001 A.D. is expected to be 41 million dwelling units. The contribution of the formal sector in providing housing stock is estimated to be at the rate of 1.3 million units per year.

Development of Daitari-Banspani RAil Line in Orissa by Private Sector

473. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have allowed the private sector to develop the strategically important Daitari-Banspani rail line in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI): (a) and (b) The work on the Daitari-Banspani line has been taken up with funding out of the allocation provided for New Lines out of Budgetary support. However, in view of the urgent need for the line as a result of the Steel Plants coming up in the area and the limited availability of resources under the above head, early completion of the line with private participation is being explored.

Disaster Management of Red Cross

474. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) when the report of the consultant for review of disaster management of the Red Cross was received;

(b) what decisions were taken on the consultant's recommendations with regard to warehouses in different parts of the country;

(c) whether instances of payments from Red Cross funds without prior approval of competent committee of the Red Cross have come to the notice of the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.R.